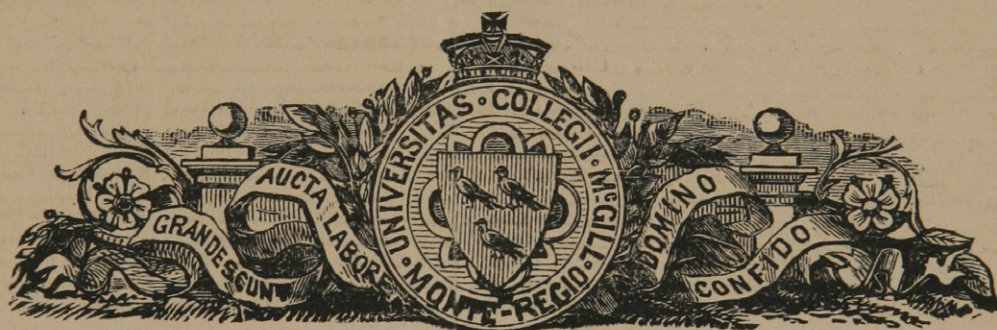


MCGILL UNIVERSITY GAZETTE

Saturday, December 1st, 1883.



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McGILL UNIVERSITY GAZETTE.

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Rejected Communications will not be returned, to which rule no exception can be made. The name of the writer must always accompany a communication.

FRIENDSHIP.

When friend to friend hath spoken the farewell,
And trembled at the thought that ne'er again
Perchance they two shall meet,—the magic spell
Of sacred friendship, is it rent in twain ?

From shore to shore the waves of ocean roll,
From East to West the lonely breezes blow,
And shall not human soul commune with soul—
Is there no spiritual ebb and flow ?

GOWAN LEA.

Editorials.

Last year was the first under the new regulations touching the course of study of the two final years in Arts. It is too early yet fully to estimate the advantages derived from the change ; but short as has been the trial of the new rules, it has been long enough to prove their wisdom. Now that the senior student is allowed to follow the bent of his inclination with regard to the line of study which he is to pursue, he takes a greater interest in his work and enters into it with a keener zest than when he was restricted and hampered in every direction, forced to spend the time he would gladly have devoted to congenial research in toilsome efforts to master the rudiments of a subject in every way distasteful to him. Now, instead of dividing his time and labour between a large number of subjects, gaining as a reward of his diligence only a smattering of each, he may, if an honour student, concentrate his energies upon the mastery of one branch of knowledge. But it is not our purpose to laud the new regulations ; rather to plead for their extension in a more or less modified form to the first and second years. In order that at the same time the B. A. degree may not lose any of its value, the Matriculation Examination should be made a true test of a fair general education. In the first and second years the work that is done is more that of a Grammar school than of a University. This is admitted even by the upholders of the present curriculum ; but they justify their position on the ground that this work is not done in the schools, and would be left untouched, were it not for the general course given in the years we speak of. On examining this argument, the question at once suggests itself : if the schools are not doing the work they should, is it the part of the Universities to step down from their plane to remedy the insufficiencies of the schools ? If the educational state of the country is weak in one part, must the strength of another part be diminished in order

that the whole may be uniform, or should the weak part be strengthened ? Let us, however, see if the schools are in such a bad position as they are sometimes represented to be. To begin with our own city, it is only seven years ago since the High School course had to be shortened by one year, because the pupils of its highest class were actually doing the same work as the second year students of McGill. Even now, the pupils in the highest class do very much the same work as the first year men, and any student from that school is prepared to enter the second year, and wastes his time if he does not. Unfortunately this is not generally known ; we say unfortunately, because to the well prepared student, whether he comes from the Montreal High School or any other, the first year, and in some cases the second also, affords him so much leisure that, in almost every instance, he falls into pernicious habits of careless study, or desultory reading, or both, which afterwards he finds great difficulty in ridding himself of, if he ever succeeds in doing so at all. To return, it is evident from what has been said, that the objection to the schools does not apply to this one ; and, as competing city schools must keep their standard equal to that of the High School, it is clear that the Montreal schools, at any rate, are or can easily be placed in a position to prepare students for a purely University course, and it must be borne in mind that twenty-five per cent. of the students in the Arts faculty come from Montreal schools. Twenty-five per cent. more come from the Province of Ontario, and it will certainly not be urged that the higher grade schools of that province are not in a position to sufficiently prepare students for a University course. But let us take an example. The Hamilton Collegiate Institute presents every year a number of candidates to compete in the Associate in Arts examination of this University, an examination which is much more than equivalent to the matriculation, and yet these candidates are not from the highest, but from the second class of that Institute. Again, eight per cent. of the students come from the Maritime Provinces, and we would be wronging them, did we not acknowledge that these students are perhaps better prepared than any who come to this college. They frequently enter the second year, and almost invariably take a high place. It appears, then, from the above showing, that fifty-eight per cent. of the students either come to McGill prepared to begin at once a University course, or have within their reach the means of so preparing themselves. We now come to the stand-by argument of the upholders of the present course of study. Forty-two per cent. of the students come from the rural districts of this province, and it is alleged that the schools in these districts are in no condition, and there appears no immediate probability of their being raised to a condition, to fully prepare students for a University course. Now, while taking exception to the sweeping nature of this charge, we are not prepared to deny, nor does our argument require it, that the present condition of some of our country schools is not such as it ought to be, or such as we could wish it to be. But we question whether it is not possible to remedy this state of affairs

One step has already been taken in this direction in the new regulations for the granting of Academy diplomas. These regulations, as was to be expected, have raised a great outcry from interested parties, and much vapid declamation has been indulged in concerning them. Leaving aside what may be regarded as mere clamour, the objections to the rules appear to be two—the injustice to present teachers and the want of experience and technical knowledge on the part of college-bred teachers. These objections are easily disposed of. With regard to teachers, as a class, the law of supply and demand applies to them, as it does to the members of any other profession or trade. At present there is a demand for highly educated men as teachers, and those who do not come under this category will naturally be set aside, or forced to accept inferior positions. Similar things happen every day in other spheres, and we hear no cry of injustice. The second objection is evidently specious. The men who go through college with the intention of teaching when they graduate, have, as a rule, been teachers before coming to college. The few, who have not, are not in any less degree practical, or lacking in technical knowledge than those similarly circumstanced who have gone before them; for at all times a University graduate could demand his Academy diploma, and until now, there have been no objections made against those who did so on the ground of their want of experience. To leave this digression, we have said that the new regulations are a step in the direction of raising the standard of our country schools. Another step will be taken when the Arts Faculty cease to do school work in the first two years of the course. It is stupid to argue that, if the college did not do this work, it would not be done at all. So long as it is done in McGill, just so long will there be no inducement, no reason for its being done in the schools. This was shown by the action of the High School authorities seven years ago, which we have before spoken of. But if the course in Arts is ever to be a truly University course, a reformation must be effected in the matriculation examination. This examination at present is a delusion, a mere farce. It is much too easy, but easy as it is, it matters not whether the student desiring entrance passes it, the obliging Faculty gives him two more chances, and he must indeed be a dullard, who prepares himself three times for an examination on the same subjects and fails every time. This state of affairs is a disgrace to the University, and its consequences are seen in the fact that men of strong constitution by dint of much cramming sometimes obtain the degree, whose attainments in ordinary subjects, are, to say the least, not very brilliant. The natural result of this is a depreciation of the estimation in which the degree is held by the general public. At all costs, this state of things should be done away with. To raise the standard of the college might cause a decrease in the attendance of students for a year or two, but it is a mistake to suppose that students, on account of the high standard, would go to colleges of a lower grade. The Medical Faculty of this University presents a direct contradiction to this position, for it is as certainly the most largely attended Medical School in the Dominion, as it is generally acknowledged that its standard is higher than that of any other. There is a lack of proper independence shown by the college authorities when they put forward, as a plea for maintaining the present course, that the attendance of students would fall off, did they make it more difficult. Granted, for the sake of argument, that this would be the result, the criterion of the success of a

University is not necessarily the numbers enrolled on its lists. Nor would a diminished attendance materially affect the finances of this University since the fees are as nearly nominal as they can well be. But, after all, the grand argument for a more advanced course is to be found in the average of age of the various classes. We believe we are justified in saying that the average of age is becoming less year by year. The conclusion we draw then, is that the time is come when the college authorities must raise the standard. Other Universities in this country are recognizing the fact that they must progress in order to keep up with the times, and McGill must awake to the necessities of the times, or fall out of the competition between colleges in which, for so long, she has held a worthy place.

THE war between Toronto University and the denominational colleges is still raging in Ontario. Principal Grant is opposing, apparently with success, any further aid being given by the Government to Toronto University. The latter demands one of two things, either that the Government give them a supplementary grant which will allow them to put the University on a proper footing, or else that they give over its management to the graduates. If both of these demands are refused, the University will be placed in a very anomalous position. It cannot attempt, as suggested by Principal Grant, to raise funds amongst its friends since it still remains nominally a State University under the management of the Government. Those who oppose any further money being given to Toronto at present, would withdraw their opposition if similar amounts were appropriated to their own colleges. This we hope will not be done, as the principle of subsidizing denominational institutions is a most pernicious one. The Principal of Queen's College the other day feebly endeavoured to maintain that that college was not denominational, but no one has the slightest doubt on that point. It seems that in Canada every sect must have its University. This spirit, as the *Montreal Witness* the other day very truly pointed out, leads to our having about half a dozen times too many colleges, none of which are properly equipped. From the present discussion it must be concluded that the day is yet far distant when party spirit in Canada will allow of our having a limited number of Universities sufficient for the wants of a nation numbering under five millions.

THE question of the admission of women to McGill University has been staved off for an indefinite time owing chiefly to the opposition offered to the scheme by Principal Dawson. Dr. Dawson has promised to make enquiries on the subject in Europe, especially at those Universities where co-education is in vogue, and the Corporation have determined to await his return before making any move. We think this is an eminently wise plan as all that can be known upon the subject will then be before the Corporation in a reliable form. The step is a most serious one to take and will require to be considered well in all its phases. It is well known that Dr. Dawson is opposed to the teaching of men and women in the same classes, and such an opinion from a professor of his experience and authority cannot easily be met. He has always been a friend to the higher education of women, and for a great number of years has lectured to large classes of ladies in this city. He avers that experience leads him to the opinion that the same kind of teaching is not suitable to the two sexes, and in this we believe him to be perfectly right. A lecturer, if he have a class composed of both women and men,

will inevitably mould his lectures to suit the women, and a change not for the better will be the general result. Principal Bernard, of Girton College, Cambridge, also opposes co-education. We print his letter upon this subject to the *Toronto Globe* in another place. He thinks that the mingling of the sexes would have a distracting effect not conducive to deep study. At the same time he considers that the colleges for women should be so situated that the students can have the services of the teachers provided for the men students. He says that in Cambridge they have so far found no inconvenience from men teaching women. This we think contains the solution of the question which must be ultimately adopted in the generality of cases. A separate college in close proximity to the University, where the services of the professors could be obtained, will meet the requirements for the higher education of women in every case. With us there is one great difficulty, namely, the lack of funds sufficient to build a separate college of this kind and to increase very largely the salaries of the professors and to increase their number. It is urged that it would be foolish to sink money in building a college for women when sufficient funds for the proper equipment of the University are not forthcoming. We disagree with this view. It is presumed that there is a great call for the higher education of women in Montreal. If there is, let a fund be started to found a college for women in affiliation with McGill. We feel sure that this would not affect the donations to McGill itself, but would rather increase the interest shown by the public in the University. The Harvard Annex, a college of this kind, has been highly successful, and the ladies of the executive committee have raised \$67,000 towards an endowment fund. By founding an Annex in McGill, a greater revenue would be available for teaching purposes, so that the professors would then obtain larger salaries. We consider the present salaries inadequate for first-class men, and we think that they should be increased on the first opportunity. The number of our professors, again, is too small. We should have a professor of Political Science and separate professors of Latin and Greek, and many others that we could name. The other plan of co-education is at best a temporary arrangement, and would only be entered into because what we have suggested seems too great an undertaking. But the authorities should face the difficulty boldly and make the attempt if they feel that they are bound at all to provide higher education for women. University College, London, is always adduced by those in favour of co-education as demonstrating its practicability, but there are many points of difficulty in comparing McGill with such a college. The greater English Universities favour the other plan. We must be very cautious, too, in considering those American colleges where co-education is carried on, the results on the whole being very doubtful. President Eliot, of Harvard, does not believe that young men and women between the age of fifteen and twenty are best educated together. President Robinson, of Brown, is not ready to favour the introduction of young women into that college. President Caldwell, of Vassar, would be glad to see the experiment of co-education tried anywhere but at Vassar. President Seely, of Amherst, thinks it is not desirable. Thus we see that though most people are of opinion that every facility for obtaining the highest education should be given to women, very many of eminence and experience have grave doubts as to the advisability of mixing the sexes. If we cannot at present afford to build a college for women, let us wait until it is possible to do so, and in the meantime educate our women in separate classes.

WE publish in this issue a letter from our umpire in the late Inter-University football match, complaining of the tone in which our account of that match was written. The writer finishes up his letter by saying "that we have good grounds for complaint is true, but the charges might have been made in a more friendly spirit." The account which is referred to was written by a correspondent who was present at the match and we are quite willing to assume the entire responsibility of it, but we most emphatically deny that it was written in anything but the most friendly spirit. We published it principally for the purpose of giving Toronto University an opportunity of answering certain complaints which seemed to us to be very well founded. The account was certainly outspoken, but if, as the umpire himself acknowledges most of the facts were true, we can hardly be blamed for feeling that some explanation was necessary. Our correspondent says that a wrong decision was given in the case of the "fair catch" by Smith, and that it is true that a fresh man was put on during the game, while he does not explain how Duggan came to play on the 'Varsity team. These admissions in the letter appear to us to form a complete justification for any soreness of feeling which may seem to be exhibited by our account. We feel sure that the kindly relations, which have hitherto existed between the two great Canadian Universities, will in no way be affected by the discussion of this matter, but that, on the contrary, the two Universities will continue to be drawn closer together.

It may be interesting to our readers to know that the Sports Committee have received a communication from the Telegraph Company with reference to the telegram sent by the Committee to Toronto University on 27th October. In going from the Head office in Toronto to the Yonge street office the name Sykes was changed to Lukes. The telegram was delivered at the University and regularly signed for, but was returned after two days as there was no gentleman of the name Lukes in the University. It is a pity that it was not returned sooner as the mistake might have been rectified in time. The Company are still trying to find out what became of the second telegram sent on the 29th October.

Contributions.

OUR MAGAZINE LITERATURE.

Our modern newspaper press, take it altogether, may be considered to be in advance of the literature which was current thirty or forty years ago. In some respects its style is not improved; certainly, inelegant Americanisms, and roughly transplanted French and German idioms have lowered the tone of the leading articles of some newspapers, and the extra haste with which so much has to be written on fugitive topics leads to various faults. Still, on the whole, the newspaper, as we now find it, is about as good as we can expect it to be in a utilitarian age; it is full of detail, generally accurate, and not lacking in life and energy. What it might become in an age less pervaded by the spirit of business, and with more time to spare for those embellishments which give a finish to literary compositions, is another thing. For the present we have, therefore, no special reason to be dissatisfied with our current newspapers; they are an efflorescence from the passing hour, and suit our requirements well enough, though posterity may think lightly of the residuum which survives the crucible of time.

But what judgment shall we pronounce upon another class of literature, of which this era yields an abundant crop, and which,

in its influence upon the minds and hearts of the people, may be said to surpass the sheet in which so many ephemeral events are chronicled, read about, and forgotten?

The magazine is an implement of high importance, capable, in an age so much given to reading, of exerting a mighty force, since it addresses itself to multitudes who have not time, inclination, or capacity for entering to any extent upon the world of books. And in this respect, also, magazines differ markedly from newspapers; no one, save for reference, turns up a newspaper even of a month's age, while magazines are frequently collected into volumes, and establish themselves in the library as a marked feature of its contents. Another circumstance which has done and is doing much towards the wider diffusion of magazine literature, is the facility with which, through lending libraries, clubs, and book societies, such periodicals can be read without purchasing them. And though it is quite true, that to some persons, what is said or asserted in a magazine is of comparatively little weight as set against book matter, yet it is as true that, with many others, deeper effects are produced by magazine than by book literature, from the fact that a magazine often influences an individual unconsciously to himself, and acts upon his mind at a moment when it is in a receptive state, and with the critical faculty dormant or only slightly aroused.

So extensive is our magazine literature at this time, that we are accustomed to break it up into sections. We have what we call "high-class" magazines, and we have others, pretty numerous, alas! which, whether we designate them so or not, are "low-class" enough. Price, size, quality of paper and type are open to endless variation; but passing by these differences, we find some religious, some partly religious, partly secular, others entirely secular; we have magazines intended for general diffusion, and those intended for a town or neighbourhood; there are magazines for various trades, or other organizations of a friendly or necessary sort; and again, magazines chiefly dedicated to certain sciences or pursuits. Some of these are so aberrant as scarcely to deserve to be entitled "magazines" at all, or so sober and matter-of-fact that they may with more propriety be reckoned as "journals," or "chronicles," rather than magazines. For what is the ideal of a magazine? Its contents should contain an abundant variety, ranging from "grave to gay, from lively to severe," the present and the past should be laid under contribution; and imagination should have its full scope, while graver and historical details are not neglected. A kind of repertory, in fact, a storehouse of reading, containing compositions which would suit different and very diverse tastes, though there ought to be pervading the whole a species of harmony, so that passing from one article to another there should be no strong or unpleasant revulsion of feeling. The idea that such a performance in literature was, as it were, a storehouse or treasury, led to the application thereto of a name applied to a place where provisions or necessary articles were stored up, kept in a repository, whence they were readily available for the use of men, and yet in a position of security. By one of those changes which come over a word, "magazine," as designating a place, has become almost restricted to one devoted either to the manufacture of warlike materials, or to the storing of them. May not this be also, in a qualified sense, only too true of our modern printed magazine, that too universally it will be found ministering harm rather than nutriment, supplying material which stirs up war amongst the passions of man, and wounds the susceptible spiritual nature, instead of giving it strength and a wholesome stimulus? For we could easily pick out a score of our magazines, magazines too in high repute, and saleable, which are not at all more likely to help to usher in the Golden Age than are cartridges and cannon-balls! Utility is not at present the prominent idea which serves as the guiding-star to the bulk of contributors, editors, and publishers connected with our magazines.

In a paper which does not pretend to go into the subject at all exhaustively, it would obviously be unadvisable to single out by name any one or more, and apply either praise or blame to these, since it would be scarcely possible to form a correct estimate of them, unless their position in our magazine literature

could be fully determined by contrasting or comparing them with their competitors or compeers. To one not inclined to be hypercritical or censorious it is far more agreeable to commend than to censure; yet honesty will not, we believe, admit of a favourable judgment being passed upon our magazine literature as a whole. A literature which is to lead a nation onward, to mould a people into nobler forms of life, and supply aspirations and high hopes to the hesitating, the timid, and the erring, must needs be in advance of the age in which it acts its part. Magazines, therefore, which are too truly the mere representations of the age which has developed them, may seem to satisfy the exigencies of the hour yet fail to fulfil what should be their purpose, and it is a wonder if they pass away without actual mischief.

The reader who has accompanied us thus far will now be prepared to receive our assertion that, looking at modern magazines with no jaundiced eye, it is sufficiently obvious to a capable critic that, viewing them as a whole, we cannot regard them as adequate agencies, considering how very largely their sphere has widened in these recent decades. There are many conspicuous, nay, illustrious exceptions, but the revolution which has swept over our literature, and has made, not patrons and publishers, but the million-voiced and ever-esurient public, the real stay of writers for the press, has not failed to operate injuriously upon current magazine literature. To write so as to please the public taste has become a seeming necessity to the great host of contributors to magazines, and when that public taste becomes depraved, there are few indeed who will set themselves to the Quixotic enterprise of endeavouring to change it. Far more agreeable, as well as profitable, is it to furnish a literary aliment which just suits that taste, false though it be, and, indeed, a considerable number of authors are not satisfied to run alongside the public in their race after the morbid and extravagant in literature, but foreseeing whither the public movement tends, they rush ahead of it, and lead the people farther astray. That this has been so with what is called the sensational fiction of our day is unquestionable, and the only hope which remains to us is, that from the well-known phenomenon of reaction, readers will ultimately be first sated and then disgusted with the luxurious and highly flavoured fare which is served up to them in the pages of those magazines which have the popularity of the hour. The responsibilities resting upon those who pander to a diseased appetite in literature are very great, and it appears to us that the veriest Grub-street scribe who, in the last century, concocted lampoons and scurrilous pamphlets, was quite as good (or as bad) a man as the sensational novelist, whose pen rolls him off more dollars in a month than the petty scribbler could raise in a year by harder work. But the one is flattered and favoured by the *élite* of society, only too often, and the other, *he*, why, his career ended mostly in a pauper's funeral and a nameless grave. But some will urge, in defence of the course pursued by modern novel-writers in magazines and elsewhere, that authors must live; and as the public seek what is hurtful or worthless, and will be supplied somehow, one person may as well be the medium of communication as another. This, however, suggests to us the well-known retort of Lord Chesterfield, who, when censuring another writer for a composition which was notably feeble, added an observation to the effect that this individual had better not handle the pen at all. "But I must live," exclaimed the criticised person, in an injured tone, "I do not see the necessity of that," was the reply. A too cutting rebuke, it may be, and yet if living be a necessity, writing is certainly not. An author had better renounce his profession, at least in so far as publishing his thoughts goes, and betake himself to the most menial of employments, nay, even beg of his friends, if he cannot work, than cast off all recollections of the pure, the noble, and the good, and give himself up to the weaving of a fabric which may be compared to the fatal gift of Nessus, and which will cling about him, to his horror, at the most dread crisis of his life, poisoned with the sorrows and maledictions of those who, though culpable in having surrendered their minds to the vile and debasing in literature, will not cease to curse the instrument which helped to betray them.

We have dwelt on this with emphasis, because the position

which fiction occupies in our modern magazine literature is startling to contemplate; for though the tide of innovation has flowed in by waves which have their rebounds, these have been both slight and ineffective; and the magazines most in favour may now be said, on the whole, to be nothing but contrivances for the circulation of tales in weekly or monthly portions; these tales being kept in countenance by an addendum of other matter, which is vulgarly denominated "padding"; and that not one reader in ten ever troubles to glance at this may be safely affirmed. In truth, so excessive has become the demand for tales, and so superfluous have ordinary compositions of an historical or descriptive cast come to be, that it is expressly announced by the editors of some magazines that they will look at nothing but fiction; while others, who do not go quite so far, state that they only pay for fiction. It is said, in commerce, that when an article is scarce, and therefore valuable in the market, it deteriorates, because its adulteration is profitable; in literature, especially of the imaginative sort, the case is just the reverse; when there is a plethora, the quality becomes inferior; for owing to the difficulty of competing with those who can improvise rapidly, those whose inventive powers are not prolific resort to various expedients in order to turn out the quantity of literary matter which is required in a limited time. Therefore we find that, in addition to defects of a moral character which attach to the stories to be found in not a few current magazines, there are numerous faults of style which are avoidable, and due to haste or carelessness. A host of modern novels and novelettes, also, are only *réchauffés* of those which have had their run in other days, the incidents being transposed, or differently draped.

Indeed, it is surprising—and yet again not surprising—how much of old literary matter of every description is dished up by the ingenious and the unscrupulous, and presented for editorial inspection; so that the office of an editor, as years go on, is rendered more and more arduous, through the need there is of carefully ascertaining, not the merits of a composition merely, but also its originality. With all caution mishaps must sometimes occur, and palpable repetitions get into print; fortunately, however, the bulk of readers, especially readers of magazines, have short memories.

The predominance of fiction in most modern magazines, and the peculiarities of that species or form of it which is largely approved, affects injuriously both the matter and manner of the portion which is assigned to other prose compositions. With a view to make these readable, and not too great a contrast to the sensational tale, the essay, the biographical or historical sketch, is worked up in as exciting and startling a manner as possible; the object being, very frequently, not to say a thing in the best and clearest way, with such elegance or rhetorical adornment as is admissible and practicable, but to produce an impression of a pleasurable nature on the reader's mind. The author throughout is thinking not so much of his subject as of himself, and of those who are to read or criticise what he writes.

Compare the prose and verse contents of the best periodicals which had a respectable circulation amongst families in the days of our grandfathers, and a dozen of modern highly estimated magazines, in purity and correctness of style and diction the former will be found superior; though of course here and there amongst the pages of the latter, passages may be selected of manifest superiority to the literature of the past.

If modern editors of magazines were to devote themselves to the work of selecting and revising, with a conviction that the prevailing taste in literature is a bad one, and needs to be changed, they might achieve much, for it is through them, as well as through public opinion, that a revolution must be wrought.

QUEVEDO.

THE CLASSICS IN ENGLAND.

It is significant that the attacks on the policy of allowing the study of Latin and Greek to occupy the first place in school and college courses are daily growing bolder in England. Lord Coleridge, who eloquently defended the study of the dead languages, both as mental training and literary culture, to the students of Yale the other day, made a rather unfortunate blunder (for his own argument), when he cited John Bright in

connection with classical education. The great English orator, has self-confessedly derived the finish and brilliancy of his eloquence from a profound study of the English classics. But it is not alone from the mistakes of the supporters of classics, that the advocates of educational progress are gaining ground, for some of the ablest men in England have been dealing some effective blows against a system which, although in its decay, is dying hard. At the inaugural dinner of the Bristol University College Club lately, Sir John Lubbock gave expression to his views, those of a representative British scientist, upon the ever varying and ever interesting problem of education. He said that the first public school commission, which sat in 1861, to enquire into the condition of the great public schools, reported with regret that too little time was devoted to modern languages and that science was practically excluded altogether. Later commissions reported to the same effect, and one in 1875 said that the omission of these subjects from the training of the upper and middle classes was "little less than a national misfortune." The result of these commissions was the adoption of natural science in school examinations to the extent of not less than one-tenth, and not more than one-fourth, according to the discretion of the governing body. Many then hoped that science and modern languages would receive a fair share of attention. But according to a Parliamentary return in 1879, the reverse proved the case. No doubt since then, some progress had been gained. He estimated that now the time was taken up about as follows:—taking 40 to 42 as about the number of hours devoted to study, two hours a week for science, three to modern languages, four to geography, and mathematics, leaving thirty for Latin and Greek. He feared they might still echo the complaint of Milton in his letter to Master Hartill more than two centuries ago, "We do amiss to spend seven or eight years merely in scraping together as much miserable Latin and Greek as might be learnt otherwise easily and delightfully in one year." Why could not six hours be devoted to mathematics, six to science, six to modern languages and history, and two to geography. There would still be left more than twenty hours for Latin and Greek, and if a boy could not learn Latin and Greek in twenty hours a week, spread over ten years, he would certainly never learn them at all. Sir John Lubbock went on to show that Englishmen had especial need to be familiar with modern languages and science, on account of England's vast foreign financial and commercial enterprises. He showed how unsatisfactory the present system was when it resulted in a young man being able to pass creditably, even with distinction, through school and college, and yet find himself unable to speak any language but his own, and ignorant of any branch of science, though perhaps proficient in mathematics, Latin and Greek. Such an education, they might say with Locke, fitted a man for the University rather than the world. Of course, Sir John Lubbock's statistics are his own, and may be taken exception to, but his views will be widely read, and reflected upon too, for his claims upon the attention of his countrymen are great, as he has lent a fascination to the pursuit of science, which no other Englishman of his day has done.

DUMBIEDYKES.

Correspondence.

MCGILL VS. TORONTO UNIVERSITY.

To the Editors of the MCGILL UNIVERSITY GAZETTE.

DEAR SIR:—I have read with some surprise the account of the above match in the last number of the *University Gazette*. The tone of the article is not, in my opinion, such as should be used towards a sister University, and more especially towards the University of Toronto, from whose hands we have always received the utmost kindness and hospitality. As umpire for McGill during the match, I must take exception to some statements made in the article, which imply that the referee was unduly biassed in favour of the Varsity team. His rulings were, in many cases, in favour of McGill, and the only time I believe his decision wrong, was in the case of the "fair catch" made by A. W. Smith, in the last half of the game. Here,

unfortunately, he did not see the catch made, and after considerably disputing on both sides gave it against us. He did not, however, "allow himself to be dictated to by the ('Varsity) umpire," as stated in the article, but gave his decision on the ground that Smith had started to run; which he averred was indicated by the two steps taken after the mark was made. I held that this should have been given in our favour, as the rule states, "a *fair catch* is a catch made direct from a kick—provided the catcher makes a mark with his heel at the spot where he has made the catch." (Rule 31, Ontario Rugby Union). In this instance the mark was made, and the mere fact that Smith involuntarily over-stepped the mark should not have had the effect of defeating our claim. With regard to the dispute about the calling of time at the end of the game, the statement in the article is entirely erroneous. It says, "Again our men had to suffer for the 'Varsity umpire's decision, sanctioned by the referee, which was that time had been called while Hamilton was taking his kick, and this in spite of the fact that they stated that there was one minute more when Hamilton went to take the kick, and the rule which says that time cannot be called until the ball is dead." Now, unfortunately for the truth of the statement I have just quoted, it happened that the referee had nothing whatever to do with the calling of time. As the umpires were both perfectly agreed as to when it should be called, it was quite unnecessary to ask the referee's opinion on the subject. Both the 'Varsity umpire and myself were keeping the time, and it was up shortly after the second fair catch made by Smith, and while the ball was being placed for the kick. As soon as the ball crossed the goal line, both of the umpires instantly called time, and although our men, unwilling to believe themselves defeated, rushed in and touched the ball down, it could not, of course, be counted in the game. In calling time just after the kick was made, we acted according to the rule specially made to meet a case of this kind which says, "Neither half time nor no side shall be called until the ball is fairly held or goes out of play, *and in the case of a try or fair catch, the kick at goal only shall be allowed.*" (Rule 60, Ontario Rugby Union). As we were obliged to have a Toronto man as referee I think we were more fortunate than otherwise in getting Mr. Morphy. When his name was mentioned I at once agreed to his acting in that capacity, and with the exception of his decision on the first "fair catch," no one could take the slightest objection to his rulings. The statement made in the article that a fresh man was put on during the game, contrary to the express agreement that only the one who was playing before should play, is, I believe, perfectly true, and wholly unjustifiable on the part of the 'Varsity captain. It was certainly due to our men that all agreements between the captains should be strictly adhered to. It is also stated in your article, that the men who went off the 'Varsity team on account of being hurt, were unaccountably able to "rush around and cheer for their side," and that there is a doubt as to whether they "could in every instance tell where the sore spot was." This appears to be a slight exaggeration; I am able to state that in, at least, two cases the injuries were severe enough to prevent the player from taking further part in the match. With regard to the playing of our men, I must say that I never saw McGill play better than in the second, nor worse than in the first three-quarters of the match. Another five minutes would, I believe, have made the difference between defeat and victory, and had our men had a few lessons in "quick scrimmaging," they would have been a match, and more than a match, for their opponents. I think that it is only due to Toronto University that some of the statements in our account of the match, should not pass without comment. That we have had good grounds for complaint is true, but the charges might have been made in a more friendly spirit.

Yours truly,

FREDERICK HAGUE.

MONTREAL, Nov. 19th, 1883.

To the Editors of the MCGILL UNIVERSITY GAZETTE.

DEAR SIRS:—I would like through your paper to suggest to the college authorities the improvement which would be effected by having a crossing of some kind placed across the road just in

front of the Medical Building. Now that the rainy season is well commenced, the amount of mud carried thence through the Medical Building is not trifling, not to mention the discomfort when the snow has commenced to get slushy in the spring.

Another suggestion is to the editors of this paper, although probably too late for use this year it might be available next. It is that the Theological Colleges in connection with the college be represented on its staff, thus increasing its circulation and probably enabling the editors to issue once a week.

MONTREAL, Nov. 10, '83

OBSERVER.

[The suggestion of "Observer" with regard to the crossing deserves the consideration of the authorities. The other matter should be brought before the students of the University at their general meeting.—Eds.]

Sporting News.

THE Columbia College foot-ball team failed to appear at Princeton for its game with the team of that College, and has accordingly forfeited its place in the Inter-Collegiate Association.

DURING the seven years that the Rugby game has been played Harvard has never put the ball over Yale's cross bar and Princeton has only touched the ball behind Yale's goal once and secured one goal from the field.

THE Yale boat crew have adopted a new stroke called the "Cooke Stroke," which differs from the stroke of last year in being a long sweep with a slow recovery. In the former stroke, which was a short sweep with a quick recovery, the legs and back were used in a quick, jerky manner, which is now superseded by not using the legs at all, the back being kept rigid until the completion of the stroke.

THE Canadian national game is not being wholly neglected in England. The other day a team of Londoners went to Cambridge and played the University team. According to the *London Times*, the game at the outset was fairly equal, but Cambridge soon asserted its superiority, and the Londoners, without gaining anything, were defeated by six goals.

AT the meeting of the McGill College Hockey Club, held in the reading room on the 21st Nov., the following officers were elected: President, Mr. J. Roy; secretary-treasurer, Mr. S. Ogilvie; committee, Messrs. Craven and Kerry. Moved by Mr. H. Hamilton, that this committee be instructed to draw up a new constitution to be presented to a meeting to be held later on. Carried.

FOOTBALL.—REVIEW OF THE SEASON.

On Saturday the 10th, the McGill team played the last match game of the season. Let us recall for a moment the five games of the five successive weeks. The first was with the Britannias on our own grounds. It was like that of last year in that our fellows were beaten; but unlike in this, that the game was played and ended, and is now looked back upon with the best of good feeling on both sides. The second was with the Montrealers, for the Montreal Challenge Cup. We were all anxious to get it, and McGill played hard; the Montrealers were bound to keep it, and played hard also. The Montrealers had been practising steadily for six weeks, while our fellows had been in shape about two, and the better form won the day. This match was played on the Montreal ground; the ground, however, was not all ground, for some of it was water. In the second three-quarters our fellows had to defend the goal in the swamp; some not being able to swim, or else being loth to entrust themselves to the cold watery deep, they played under difficulty. Thus the game was lost by two goals.

The next was on our grounds with the Kingston Cadets. The most remarkable thing about this pleasant match, was the fine scrimmage of the Cadets, formed of seven men, with arms interlocked in the shape of a wedge. This ended in a draw in favor of McGill.

On Saturday, Nov. 3rd, was played the annual match between the teams of McGill and Toronto Universities. Except in one particular, the game was played by the rules of

the Ontario Rugby Union; and as it was the first time that McGill had met this sort of play, they were naturally placed at some disadvantage. These rules are certainly an improvement on the old, and reflect much credit on the hard work of those who drew them up. The counting by points is much more satisfactory; the rule enforcing the immediate putting down of the ball when "held," makes a livelier game, and prevents that enormous waste of strength and, alas! often temper, in the old-fashioned scrimmage. This rule has been in force for many years in the Old Country. Our committee gave their cordial approval to these rules, except to that which provided that three of the opponents' hands should be on the ball before "held," instead of two, as formerly. This match then was played. Such a full and reliable report was given in the last number, that nothing more need be said. There, too, will be found the complaints expressed, which even the most cool-headed of the team urged again and again. One of the results of this annual match, so far, has been to draw the two great Universities of Canada closer together, and it is to be hoped that in future years these contests will be as pleasant as the two first and pleasanter than the last.

Nothing daunted by the defeat of October 20th, McGill had sent in another challenge to play the Montrealers for the Cup. This, the last match, was decidedly the most satisfactory. To those "who didn't know," this match was a surprise; but to those who knew that all our fellows needed was team practice, it wasn't. The team-practice of the intervening three weeks was shown all through the game; not only in getting quickly to work, but in keeping steady right to the end; the play was firmer and safer, and the players kept well on the ball, and supported each other in a way which had before been absent in McGill play. In the early part of the season, there was too much reckless kicking at the ball when it ought rather to have been held. It used to be an old rule in football, never to kick at a rolling ball, except under very exceptional circumstances, and we think the rule is a good one still.

As to the team itself, seven were new men. Of these, Johnson developed wonderfully; while we cannot speak too highly of Powne's dribbling and tackling and careful play. P. Robertson is fast, and both Ogilvie and Craven promise to make safe half-backs. These in common with all our backs are good at tackling low, and this is what has made McGill's defence always strong. The old members of the team played well; we expect them to do so. Hislop, through damages received in the first match, was not only unable to carry his share—a large share—of prizes at the sports, but was also prevented from playing in two games, and this tower of strength was sadly missed. With this year there go Hamilton, A. W. Smith, Hislop, Rogers, C. B. Smith. These are every one strong men, and cannot help being missed. The prospects, however, for next year are good; this year there have been more real players than ever before, and our second fifteen have shown qualities of pluck and rush which will tell in succeeding years.

One thing we are needing, and needing very much, is a dressing-room on the ground, fully supplied with baths and towels. Another thing, and every year will bring the want, is team-practice. This is almost impossible to get, on account of the different faculties represented in the team, and the different hours at which they are engaged. However, there are no lectures from seven to eight in the morning; let them next year do what the Montrealers have done all Fall; turn out three times a week, for morning practice. Success depends on it.

Besides the team matches, there have been several class and faculty matches, ten or twelve in all. This number should be doubled next year. In fact, the writer thinks there should be a team in each faculty, so that most of the playing would be "inter fratres"—"all in the family" of Alma Mater. The rivalry this would create would be very helpful to that which must always remain the game of McGill, the royal game of football. Let those who are doubtful, consider that at present, six of the team are Medicals, and there are hosts to draw upon; while in Science, every second man plays football. These facts assure me that my dream will be realized, not far in the future.

A PLAYER.

College World.

MCGILL.

PROF. MOYSE has consented to deliver a lecture to the Undergraduates Literary Society at its first meeting in January next.

THE annual auction came off in the Reading Room on 17th November, Mr. G. C. Wright acting as auctioneer. The prices obtained were very fair, though not as good as last year's.

THE students in all the Faculties of McGill and in Bishop's College intend to occupy "the gods" of the Academy at the performance of the Montefiore Club on the 3th inst. A good time is anticipated.

COLLEGE TRACK.—Besides those whose names appeared in the *Gazette* of Nov. 1, the following gentlemen have subscribed one dollar each. Messrs. Alex. Falconer, B.A., F. McLennan, B.A., and R. A. E. Greenshields, B.A.

A LARGE but select body of Meds. were given to understand that they received an invitation to a certain theological tea-fight not long ago. The welcome they received was not in all respects as hearty as they anticipated, but they would like to return the hospitalities of the occasion and have extended a cordial invitation to the Theologues *in re* the little supper which nightly goes on in the upper story of the Medical College at eight p.m.

THE Arts Faculty have promulgated an edict to the effect that no notices concerning matters outside the College may be posted on the bulletin board without the permission of the Principal, or in his absence, of the Faculty, and that all notices must be signed. We recommend as a more expeditious plan, that a Public Censor be appointed, one of whose duties shall be to take charge of the bulletin board. By the time that a notice, say for a Students' Night at the Theatre, has been presented to the Faculty, which, by the way, does not meet oftener than once a fortnight, and permission obtained for the publication of the same, we are afraid its utility would have departed. In making a petition for leave to post a notice, we presume that the Faculty must be approached through the usual channel, and that all the numerous requirements of red-tapeism must be satisfied. Probably the Faculty would not object to appoint a standing committee of one to superintend these matters and thereby lessen the cumbersomeness of the present procedure. They would then be placing *multum in uno sed non in parvo*.

UNDERGRADUATES' LITERARY SOCIETY.

On the 16th ult., after Mr. A. W. Gerrie and Mr. Stewart had favoured the society with an essay and reading, the question: "Should the Judiciary be Elective," was discussed by Messrs. Macrae and Dolloff for the affirmative and Messrs. F. Pedley and McQuat for the negative. This debate was a very amusing one, two of the speeches being decidedly unique in their naiveté and unconscious humour. One of the speakers distinguished himself by his reckless handling of well-known facts of history. A debating society always presents a temptation to sacrifice accuracy to effect; but we hope that instances in which this temptation proves too strong for the virtue of the speakers, will be as rare in the future meetings of the society as they have been in the past. An observation which would apply to the whole debate is that the subject was dealt with in a very superficial manner. As we pointed out in our last issue, this has always been the case when the question for discussion is one with which all have a slight acquaintance from their newspaper reading.

On Friday, the 23rd, an essay and a selection from Shakespeare were read by Messrs. Unsworth and Topp, after which the question, whether monopolies have proved advantageous to the development of Canada, was debated by Messrs. Wright, Chalmers and Solandt for the affirmative, and Messrs. Calder, Mackay and J. W. Pedley for the negative. The former speakers deserve credit for preparation. A vexatious circumstance was the absence of all the speakers appointed on the negative side, and the thanks of the society are due to the gentlemen whom we have named for volunteering to carry on the discussion. The

problem the society has now to face is, what is to be done when members refuse to take part in the programmes without advancing any reason for their refusal? We suggest that they be expelled from the society.

GASTRONOMIC.

Messrs. G. A. Graham and Jas. L. Addison were sent as delegates to represent McGill; the former to the annual dinner of Trinity Medical School, Toronto, and the latter to that of Queen's College, Medical School, Kingston.

McGill Medical Undergraduates Annual Dinner.—In spite of the strange and awful name, which this great college event is at present laboring under, we confidently expect that this dinner will surpass even that of last year, which is saying not a little.

After the usual numerous and stormy meetings, which appear to be the normal method of transacting any business whether small or great, a small but boisterous opposition, consisting of some men who wished to have the old footing dinner with its attendant distinction of crockery and morning headache;—of more men who objected to dinners in general either from strong principle or weak digestion, and who, therefore, saw quite sufficient reason for doing anything in moderation to clog the wheels of this particular dinner;—of more again who simply objected upon general principles as they might and do object to anything else, giving none but the feminine reason in spite of all these the dinner is now fairly under way and will be held at the Windsor upon December 7th, when all present will aid in attempting the difficult part of beating last year's record. Numerous representatives from other colleges and professions will go to fraternize with that sociable creature the "Med." We heartily wish that the one, who headed a movement that had been gathering force for several years and whose well directed exertions and the kind assistance of our faculty were rewarded by the successful banquet of last year, could be present. Need we say that we refer to Dr. Charles Cameron, now in London.

The whole affair has been entrusted to the following gentlemen than whom no more energetic men and more convivial spirits could be chosen.

Chairman of Dinner, Mr. R. F. Ruttan; Honorary Secretary, Dr. Osler. Committee:—Chairman, Mr. C. E. Gooding; Secretary, Mr. L. D. Ross; Faculty Representatives, Drs. Ross and Butler; Graduate Representatives, Drs. R. L. McDonnell and Henry; Third Year Representatives, Messrs. Darey and Eberts; Primary Year Representatives, Messrs. Wishart and Worthington; Freshmen, Messrs. Lafleur, Bowen, Richardson and Wilkinson.

We regret to see that there has been a difficulty this year respecting the payment of the annual footing by the Freshmen; this custom has become merely the payment of a necessary subscription in one instalment upon entering, instead of in small sums during the whole course. It is, therefore, not in the least an imposition upon the Freshmen. The amount in itself is trifling and had not the Freshmen class been stirred up by parties otherwise well meaning, but in any case ill-advised there would have been no difficulty. The three senior years treated the Freshmen upon this occasion in the most polite and considerate manner possible, merely explaining the matter to them at a meeting and inviting discussion upon the subject. After this they withdrew, leaving the Freshmen to decide the matter by the vote of their own class. It is a significant fact that those who had organized the opposition in the Freshmen class were conspicuously silent when called upon to defend their rather hasty action before the general meeting, yet three gentlemen of the first year, and we regret to hear one gentleman of the second year also had plenty to say for themselves when the final years had withdrawn.

We are happy to state that the meeting decided to pay the footing, and let us now hope that after a storm will come a calm. In a school where the freshmen are so little interfered with and so politely treated as they are, it is a pity that they should be led by misrepresentation into attempting to shirk a necessary tax, for their own benefit as well as that of the others, which the men of all preceeding years making one allowance for idiosyncrasy have cheerfully paid.

MCGILL MEDICAL SOCIETY.

At the last meeting on the 17th of November Mr. Renner read a paper upon "Tumors of the Breast," citing a number of cases he had studied in the hospital. Dr. R. J. B. Howard added greatly to the interest of the evening, by exhibiting a series of microscopic slides illustrating nearly every variety of breast tumors. Two specimens of hemorrhage into the pincardinne were shewn by the pathologist and remarks were made upon the cases by Drs. Ross and Osler. Mr. Addison reported an obscure but interesting case, which he had witnessed during the summer.

UNIVERSITY LITERARY SOCIETY.

At the usual weekly meeting held on the 16th November, Mr. Doherty presided. Mr. W. C. Davie was elected a member of the Society. The election of speakers for the Public Debate then took place. The following were chosen:—Messrs. Smith, McGoun, Cross and R. Greenshields. The question for the evening, viz.: "Should the existence of National Societies in Canada be encouraged?" was decided in the negative. The speakers were, for the affirmative, Messrs. P. McKenzie and R. Greenshields; for the negative, Messrs. F. Hague and J. R. Murray. Mr. Oughtred also said a few words in favour of the affirmative. It was moved by Mr. J. R. Murray, seconded by Mr. McGoun, that the Council be instructed to take measures or a visit to this city of Mr. Matthew Arnold, and the delivery by him of a lecture, under the auspices of the Society.

On Friday, 23rd Nov., a report was made by the speakers chosen for the Public Debate. With the consent of the Society, they wished to substitute for a regular debate a discussion on Charles Dickens, each speaker to review a different phase of his writings, such as their pathos, their teaching power, and so forth. Mr. Greenshields explained to the meeting his reasons for not wishing to take part in the public meeting, and it was decided to limit the number of speakers to three. Mr. Cross, seconded by Mr. Ritchie, proposed that the meeting should be private instead of public. This was rightly ruled out of order by the President. The original motion was put to the meeting and resulted in a tie. A re-count having been called for, the report was carried. The Corresponding Secretary reported that he had written in regard to the delivery of a lecture by Mr. Matthew Arnold, and received answer that steps had already been taken and arrangements almost completed for that gentleman's visit to this city. Mr. Lyman then read an exhaustive essay on "Anglo-American Treaties and their Disastrous Effects on Canada." The chosen speakers were Messrs. Doherty and Mackie, who were followed by Messrs. Boodle, Smith and McGoun.

FACULTY OF LAW.

An interesting commercial point came up for discussion in the Moot Court last Friday before Prof. Davidson. Plaintiff, the holder of the following bill of exchange, sought to charge the drawer, drawee and endorsers as jointly and severally liable to him thereon:

"MONTREAL, 21st January, 1883.

"Pay to order of C. two months after the date hereof the sum of five hundred dollars and charge to account of

"A.

"To B., Quebec."

Endorsed "Pay D." (Signed C.)

"D."

Plaintiff alleged demand for payment and protest for non-payment on third day of grace, of which notice was given to all parties, contending that in a bill payable a certain time after date, presentment for acceptance was unnecessary under Art. 2290, C.C.; and further that plaintiff was the legal holder as the special endorsement by the payee was not sufficient to restrict the payment to D. The defendants pleaded that true it is that in a bill payable after date presentment for acceptance and for payment need not be separate, but when dishonored the bill should have been protested for non-acceptance and had been wrongly protested for non-payment. That the Code recognizes the right of a payee to stop the negotiability of a bill (Art. CC. 2258); that the above endorsement had always been held a

sufficient restriction, and that consequently plaintiff was not the legal holder entitled to receive the contents of the bill and payment to him had been rightly refused. Prof. Davidson took the case *en délibéré* and will render judgment next Friday, the 20th instant.

Professor Hutchinson presided at the Moot Court Sitting, on Thursday, the 29th November, at 4 p.m.

Case:—A seizure issues before judgment and the goods of the defendant are seized thereunder, and an official guardian placed in charge.

The employees of the defendant remove the goods while under seizure. The plaintiff causes a rule to issue against the employees for contempt of court.

The defendant answers: 1. The rule should have issued at the instance of the guardian. 2. The rule should have issued against the defendant not against his agents. Question: Should the rule be made absolute?

For the plaintiff, Mr. F. S. McLennan and Mr. Duffet; for the defendant, Mr. J. Rogers and Mr. A. W. Smith.

Prof. Trenholme will preside at the Moot Court on Monday next, 3 inst., at 4 p.m.

A meeting of the Graduates' Society was held on Saturday last.

GENERAL.

SMITH COLLEGE for women has at present 259 students.

PHILLIPS EXETER ACADEMY has a student who boards himself on fourteen cents a day.

THE library of Wesleyan University is to be opened to students on Sunday evenings.

MR. MATTHEW ARNOLD has been asked by the Alma Mater Society of Queen's College to lecture there.

THE Ottawa graduates of Toronto University are talking of organizing. There are about twenty-five of them in that city.

TRINITY COLLEGE, at Hartford, has just secured a map of America published at Madrid in 1522, supposed to have been made from Columbus's ideas.

DAKOTA is already to have a college. It is to be established by the Presbyterians at Jamestown, and the city is to give \$10,000 and valuable lands toward the endowment of the institution.

ONE professor in Edinburgh University receives a salary of \$16,000 a year; five others get each \$10,000. The salary of the Latin professor in Glasgow University is \$11,000. Another Latin teacher in the same institution receives \$10,000.

THE next meeting of the inter-state commission on federal aid to education will be held in Washington when the congressional session opens. It will be remembered that this commission has prepared a bill asking for the sum of sixty millions of dollars for educational purposes.—*Ex.*

THE Toronto University College Literary Society is about to establish a course of lectures by eminent men on popular questions during the academic year. The *'Varsity* suggests that Matthew Arnold, who is soon to visit Toronto, be secured to deliver a lecture under the auspices of the society.

PROFESSOR MACKINNON, the newly-elected Professor of Gaelic in Edinburgh University, was given a complimentary banquet on November 7th. The chairman, Rev. Dr. Norman Macleod, said that Prof. Mackinnon was their first professor of Celtic language and literature, for in that connection they were behind both England and Ireland.

SIR GEORGE BROKE MIDDLETON has announced his intention of subscribing \$2,500 to Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, at Ipswich, England, for the purpose of constructing a swimming bath, stipulating that the building shall in some way commemorate the famous duel between the frigates Chesapeake and Shannon, on June 1st, 1813.

MISS ALICE GARDNER, a distinguished student of Newnham Hall, Cambridge, and author of the article on "The Emperor Julian's View of Christianity," in the September number of *Macmillan's Magazine*, has been elected out of twenty candi-

dates Professor of History in Bedford College, London, in succession to Mr. Bass Mullinger.—*Ex.*

THE annual convention of New England colleges was held on Nov. 14 and 15 at Boston University. Ten colleges, Harvard, Yale, Wesleyan, Williams, Amherst, Brown, Tufts, Dartmouth, Trinity and Boston University, were respectively represented by their presidents and one professor. The subject for discussion was, "The Place of Modern Languages in the College Curriculum."—*Ex.*

THE last report of the Minister of Education of Ontario, reveals the following facts concerning head masters of High Schools and Collegiate Institutes:—Graduates of Toronto, 47; Victoria, 18; Queen's, 8; Albert, 5; McGill, 3; Trinity, 3; Dublin, 3; Aberdeen, 2; Queen's (Ireland), 2; Glasgow, Mt. Alison, N. B., Giessen (Germany), Oxford, and Cambridge, 1 each; certificate holders, 8.

It is likely that the dream of the late John Richard Green, the English historian, of an Oxford Historical Society, will be shortly fulfilled. A prospectus of the association has been issued, from which it appears that the Duke of Albany is to be a member of the council. The prospectus gives a brief history of Oxford since 912. A number of works bearing on the history of Oxford are proposed for publication shortly.

THE New University College for South Wales and Monmouthshire at Cardiff, was opened on 24th October last, amid considerable rejoicing. Lord Aberdare, the president, gave an address at the New Hall in Queen's Chambers, and afterwards proceeded to the Collegiate Building with a numerous and representative procession, embracing functionaries and deputations from all parts of South Wales. Lord Aberdare received a gold key, and declared the institution open.

THE Royal Commission of the Scottish Universities, looking at examinations from an educational point of view, have declared that they "earnestly deprecate the growing tendency to increase their number and to regard the passing of examinations as the end rather than as a subordinate means of university education," and they add that "for all the higher purposes of education examinations are at best little better than necessary evils."

THE Rev. Dr. Hamlin, president of Middlebury College, Vermont, has introduced a novel idea into the college. A set of weighing scales has been placed in the college boarding hall, and the student boarders are to be weighed monthly. A record of their weight each month will be kept, in order to determine what effect the college diet has upon them. If this monthly weighing could be made to take the place of examinations, the students would probably be entirely happy.—*Ex.*

HARVARD COLLEGE was named after John Harvard, who, in 1638, left to the college £779, and a library of over 300 books. Williams College was named after Colonel Ephraim Williams, a soldier of the old French war. Dartmouth College was named after Lord Dartmouth, who subscribed a large amount, and was president of the first board of trustees. Brown University received its name from Nicholas Brown, who was a graduate of the college, went into business, became very wealthy, and endowed the college very largely. Bowdoin College was named after Governor Bowdoin, of Maine. Yale College was named after Elihu Yale, who made very liberal donations to the college.—*Ex.*

A CURIOUS action is pending in the Sheriff's Court at Glasgow. Professor Caird has applied for an injunction to restrain a bookseller from publishing a pamphlet entitled, "Aid to the Study of Moral Philosophy, especially designed for students." The book is said to be a shorthand report of the professor's lectures taken verbatim by some student attending them. The lectures were delivered from MS. notes, and Prof. Caird is evidently afraid of how they will look in print, for he says they are "ignorantly taken down" and the book will be "misleading." The Sheriff granted an interim injunction. An act passed in William IV's reign, gives a copyright to lectures, but not lectures delivered in a university.

At the last meeting of the trustees of Princeton Theological Seminary, President McCosh announced that Mrs. Robert Stuart, of New York, had handed over to the college \$150,000 to provide for salaries in the new Department of Philosophy. She gives this in memory of her late husband and of his deceased brother, Mr. Alexander Stuart. Mr. Alexander Johnson was elected to the Chair of Jurisprudence and Political Economy, and will commence his duties January 1. The following are the studies at present in the Department of Philosophy: Psychology, Physiological Psychology, Metaphysics, History of Philosophy, Science and Religion, Logic, Ethics, Philosophy of History, Political Science, Jurisprudence, Political Economy and Special Studies in Art.—*American Paper*.

We have received the first number of the *V. P. Journal*, published by the Science Association, Victoria University, Cobourg, Ont. In its Salutory it does not claim to be the organ of the undergraduates of any university, and, in fact, can hardly be classed as a college paper. It neglects to explain why it is called the *V. P. Journal*. Its primary object is the discussion of educational and scientific questions; but its columns are open to all subjects of an interesting character. The following are the titles of some of its articles: "University Consolidation"; "Plea for Scientific Education"; "Poverty of the Age," and "Oriental Sketches." It is also its intention to start soon a review of scientific and educational works. College news receives very little attention. On the whole we must congratulate the managers of the *V. P.* on their work, and, although it is something new in college journalism, yet we think it will prove a decided success. It is one of the neatest of our exchanges in appearance, the selections are good, and the articles are short and rather interesting.

In view of the recent charges of agnosticism levelled against University college, President Wilson has resolved that the natural science professors shall in turn preside at the Y. M. C. A. meetings held in the college, and publicly recant any previous professions of unbelief. Professor Ramsay Wright occupied the president's stool at the association's last meeting, and considering the unusualness of his situation, did not do so badly.

He said that there was no conflict between religion and science, because both were in search of truth. One of the freshmen, eager to apply his professor's argument concluded that there was no conflict between France and China because both were after Annam.

The public will watch with interest the appearance of Professor Pike on the bench, whose turn is understood to arrive next. We should advise professor P. to make his statements broad and uncompromising, and to have the president in front to sign when he seems about to step over the traces.—*Toronto World*.

THE annual catalogue of Dartmouth College will appear soon. It shows two additional professors, fifty-six seniors, forty-seven juniors, sixty sophomores, and seventy freshmen; a total of 233—about the same at last year. The Chandler scientific department has one addition to its faculty and a gain of eight students, with a total of sixty-eight. The Thayer school of civil engineering gains six in a total of ten, having three men in the first class and seven in the second. The agricultural college has thirty-nine students and the medical college eighty. Two new optional courses have been added in the department of physics, one of original experiment and research in magnetism and electricity, and the other in elective practical work with theses. Two new prizes of \$40 and \$50 are offered, the former by S. W. McCall of '74 and W. E. Barrett of '80 to the senior class for the best essay on some subject in political economy, "The advantages of free trade in the United States and how it can be most safely attained" being suggested. The other prize is offered by C. H. Weed of '72 to the college and scientific department for the best essay in advocacy of protection. The library has received numerous additions, and now contains 61,885 volumes. Sixty-nine scholarships of about \$70 each are offered to indigent students. Of the 430 students 244 are from New England and 136 from New Hampshire. Nine States outside of New England and three Territories are represented.—*Ex.*

PRINCIPAL BERNARD, of Girton College, Cambridge, writes to *The Toronto Globe*: "I have no experience of the co-education of the sexes beyond the age of childhood. But I disapprove of the idea, as I should expect co-education at the age suitable for college life to have a distracting effect on the minds of the young women at any rate (I have not considered the subject as it regards the young men). I should think it would add other excitements to that attendant on the pursuit of knowledge, and in my experience I have found that the latter is quite as much as the health of most young women will stand. They cannot afford to divide their time and strength between learning and social interests. I should wish women to have the freest and widest opportunities of desire as to their courses of study, to be able to take the same courses as the young men take, or others if they prefer them. A liberal education is a costly thing. We find that the cost to women is very much lessened by their colleges being so situated that the women students can have the services of the teachers provided for the men students. High education must lead to equalization; you cannot study many things deeply. It might well happen that in any given number of students there would be only a few either male or female for some special branch, and that the teacher of them in that subject would have time enough to teach the women. It would in such a case be a waste to have two teachers, and the double fees must secure a better teacher. Further, library and museums might be used in common; lectures of some kinds might be attended by both sexes, though I would have small classes of one sex only, and still more individual teaching. This applies to the pupils only; we have found so far no inconvenience from men teaching women."

In Cambridge there is much merriment over the curious methods of initiating Harvard students into the two societies, the "Hasty Pudding" and the "Pi Eta." All aspiring young men are put through, for two weeks, a series of menial and humiliating drudgery and subjection. One New Yorker was made to sell papers for a week dressed in pants made of striped bed ticking, a swallow-tail coat, and a silk hat. One well-dressed young man was made to dash through Harvard Square, holding out a long-handled tin dipper and pathetically imploring, "Won't you give me a little something," at the same time devoutly crossing himself. Others are fantastically dressed and placarded, and sent on ridiculous errands. Some have to assume a peculiar vest whenever they go out, and go out they must; some call at houses and beg a piece of pie; some are sent with notes to young ladies, and are forbidden to smile while making the call, and must not leave until the ladies, who are apprised by the note of the object of the call, dismiss them; some have their heads bandaged and are carried to a distant street and left at a house, appearing to the neighbours who observe the farce that a sad calamity has befallen some one; some are made to laugh as they run across the grounds and through the streets—a sort of sardonic grin; and some are made to black the boots of their fellows. What is the penalty of disobedience? Simply, they do not get in. The doors of the "Hasty Pudding" or of the "Pi Eta" are closed against them forever; they must remain in outer darkness. Violence is not resorted to in the initiations, which are curious and ingenious methods for making the young men ridiculously obsequious; and when they have been put through I suppose they feel greatly exalted.—*Christian Union*.

THE *Presbyterian College Journal* has put on a new dress, which by the way possesses a dim resemblance to our own. The change which has been made is somewhat of an improvement and we shall be content if our example has done even this much good. We do not wish to exhibit any selfishness. This reminds us that there is an opportune article in the *Journal* on Selfishness, in which the author, who calls himself Beta, discusses in a philosophical strain the cases of a perspiring female in a heated railway car, and an eminent divine lounging in a drawing-room with his hands in his pockets. There is also a diatribe against smokers. We who now and then indulge in a light cigarette when exhausted by our literary labors turned pale when we reflected that perhaps in the words of the *Journal* our

"body was becoming saturated with tobacco." *Inimicus fumo* says that "everyone knows that medical science declares 'the flagrant weed' to be injurious." Not so fast *Inimicus*; we think it depends partly on the constitution and a few other circumstances. Bad tobacco is certainly injurious. We recommend *Inimicus* to try a light brand next time, it is not so liable to make a beginner sick. "Patrologia" is a poem of considerable merit. Among the other articles are "My First Sermon," "Heart Searching," "The Teacher and Preacher Co-Labourers," "Imported Ministers," "Vexatious Men," etc. The two last articles are decidedly poor, the tone of the latter being hypochondriacal. The *Journal* complains that ministers are imported from the Old Country to fill the best positions in Canada. We can fully understand that a soreness should be felt on this point, but we can quite as fully understand why these ministers are imported. It is quite a recognized principle now to purchase where the best value can be obtained for one's money. The French department of the paper is very well conducted. The *Journal* says that we are being "gradually resuscitated." Many thanks for the compliment. We were not aware that the *resuscitating* process was still going on. On the whole the *Journal* is too humdrum and theological for a students' paper, and almost entirely oblivious to the charms of style.

WE have received the following:—*Varsity*, *The Atlantis*, *Dickinson Liberal*, *Harvard Advocate*, *Dalhousie Gazette*, *The Undergraduate*, *Queen's College Journal*, *New York University Quarterly*, *Knox College Monthly*, *The Argosy*, *Presbyterian College Journal*, *The University Monthly*, *Hamilton (Ky.) College Monthly*, and *The Wollestock Gazette*.

Between the Lectures.

A CHINESE SONG.

He saw in sight of his house,
At dusk, as stories tell,
A woman picking mulberries,
And he liked her looks right well.

He struggled out of his chair.
And began to beckon and call;
But she went on picking mulberries,
Nor looked at him at all.

"If famine should follow you,
He would find the harvest in;
You think yourself and your mulberries
Too good for a mandarin."

"I have yellow gold in my store,"
But she answered sharp and bold—
"Be off! let me pick my mulberries,
I am bought with no man's gold."

She scratched his face with her nails,
Till he turned and fled for life;
For the lady picking mulberries,
Was his true and virtuous wife.

Q. S. C. S.

Is a "slope" an organized body?

WHEN does a man shave with a silver razor? When he cuts off his heirs with a shilling.

PROFESSOR in metaphysics: "What is the chief boon in the life of man?" Absent minded disciple of Darwin: "Baboon."
—*Dartmouth*.

MAC——, it is understood, refused to go on the paper because of religious scruples. "He could not have anything to do with the (printer's) devil."

AT A RECENT DEBATE.—Speaker: "You ah—hem! you already know perhaps, I come from the Townships." Voice from the crowd: "Never mind—that's all right."

OIL SPONGE-CAKE, buchurious bread and squill pancakes for table delicacies; and all first-class drug stores have a bake shop and lunch room attached to the prescription department.

"WHY," asked Pat, one day, "why was Balaam a first-class astronomer?" The other man gave it up, of course. "Shure," said Pat, "'twas because he had no trouble in finding an ass to roid."—*Ex*.

APROPOS of the knickerbocker movement, it is reliably stated that the garters on Oscar Wilde's hind legs, are tied in a true-lover's knot. The more the public find out about this young man the more sweetly precious he becomes.

A SCRAMBLE took place when the P. C. J. was put in the letter rack last week. On asking the Freshie, who managed to get it the reason of the excitement, he replied with a long countenance that he thought he was going to get an extra copy of the *Gazette*.

A PROFESSOR, annoyed by a student continually winding at a Waterbury watch, was compelled at last to say something about the matter. Looking up over the forms, he observed, cautiously, "Did ye not hear it? No, 'twas but the wind." He has not been troubled since.—*Argosy*.

It is said that a boy came home from school very much excited and told his father that he believed all human beings were descended from apes, which made the old man so mad that he replied angrily:—"That may be the case with you, but it ain't with me; I can tell you that now."

THERE are different ways of getting through College. Some shout their way through, some pony through, some fiddle through, some taffy through, some "my-father-is-a-Methodist-preacher" their way through, some "studying-for-the-ministry" their way through, and a few work through.—*Ex*.

It is reported that Barnum has made an offer to Oscar Wilde for the latter to sit on top of Jumbo and ride in the street processions. If, instead of Wilde sitting on the elephant, Jumbo were to sit on Wilde, the result would be more satisfactory to the people, and it wouldn't hurt Jumbo much.—*Ex*.

It is related that when some friends of Campbell, the author of "Hohenlinden," were leaving his room after a late supper, one of them had the misfortune to fall down a long flight of stairs. The poet, alarmed by the noise, opened the door and inquired, "What's that?" "Tis I, sir, rolling rapidly," was the immediate response.—*University Monthly*.

PROFESSOR of Hygiene grinding: "Mr. Seedy, what means would you adopt to improve the air of a room containing a minimum amount of oxygen?"

Mr. Seedy (promptly): "Open the window and let the minimum out, sir. Tableau."

THE London *Academy* says that "a duel took place the other day at Pesth between two noblemen, one a son of Count Andrassy, which arose out of a quarrel about the truth of Darwinism. The supporter of Darwinism, we regret to hear, was seriously wounded." They say his opponent now believes in the doctrine of the "survival of the fittest."—*Ex*.

A DINER-OUT who had had more than his share of the wine was carefully feeling his way home at night, when he unfortunately stumbled against the circular railing which surrounded a statue. After having gone around it about seven times, the hopelessness of his situation flashed upon him, and he sank down upon the pavement outside with a despairing shriek: "The scoundrels! They have shut me in here."

A NEW device for the bothering of lovers was successfully "operated" in a third-class railway carriage, by a heartless young man in Wales the other day. A couple sat on the seat before him. The lady was young and modest, and the swain wore very large cuffs. One arm was thrown carelessly along the back of the seat, and upon this the evil-minded person behind put some phosphorus. The affectionate performances of that cuff when the train was rushing through the kindly darkness of the tunnels were beheld by the unfeeling and titrating occupants of the carriage, whose cruel enjoyment was not a little increased by the demure and unconcerned appearance of the lovers each time the train dashed again into the light.

The following is an accurate report of the great lightning Clinic at the Hospital, by our special correspondent. Fastest time on record.

SCENE.—*Surgical Ward of the Montreal General Hospital. Enter Clinical Professor from private ward, 33½ minutes late, attended by House Surgeon. Class, who have been standing around in the corridors waiting, follow him in.*

BED NO. 1.—PROF.—“How are you to-day?”

BED NO. 2.—PROF.—“Dr. ——— will dress your leg to-day. I'm in a hurry.”

BED NO. 3.—PROF.—“Surgical kidney, distended ureter, and sacculated bladder; common cause of death in old men.” PATIENT—“Donnewetter! Ach! Gott in Himmel!” (*Groans.*) PROF.—“Poor old fellow! Failing fast; rather hard to understand patient. Some cough, I think.”

BED NO. 4.—PROF.—“Interesting case, considerable pain; stricture.”

BED NO. 5.—(*Prof. proceeds to dress a stump, and a few crowd close around bed and prevent others from seeing, rest of class disperse in different parts of ward. After dressing is finished.*) PROF.—“Mr. A., how did I just dress that stump?” MR. A., (*who was not one of the select few around bed*), “Iodoform, sir.” PROF.—“What do you say, Mr. B.?” MR. B., (*on the outskirts of the crowd that had gathered around Prof.*), “Iodoform, I think.” PROF.—“Well, Mr. C., what do you think?” MR. C.—“I did not see it dressed, sir.” PROF.—“Do you recollect, Mr. D.?” MR. D., (*amid the titters of the class*), “Iodoform, sir.” And so on down to Mr. X. This gentleman wondering how the panacea had happened to fail so many of his class-mates in their hour of need, and prompted by the ubiquitous Freshman who saw the dressing, answered correctly, “Balsam of Peru.” (*Promising young surgeon is Mr. X.*)

BED NO. 6.—PROF.—“Put out your tongue. You see, gentlemen, the patient has had his tongue excised, and consequently is unable to protrude it. Do you like beef-tea?”

BED NO. 7.—PROF.—“Case of fracture.” (*To House Surgeon.*) “Can't you get a good hard bed? These springy beds are no use.” H.S.—“Only kind we have, sir.” PROF.—“This spring is too narrow.” H.S.—“Only one long enough in Hospital.”

BED NO. 8.—PROF.—“Some inflammatory products are exuding from this wound. Put on simple dressing.” H.S.—“Yes, sir.”

Exit Professor followed by class. Time occupied, 17¾ minutes. Thus are the disciples of Aesculapius trained in the way they should go.

N.B.—It is understood from one of “those who know” that the Professor will have an “At Hospital” early in December. Lunch with coffee and cigars in the waiting-room of the M. G. H. at 1 p.m. At 1.35 sharp a “very interesting case” in Ward — will be discussed. Invitations are to be issued to the Final Class only.

Personals.

C. M. Gordon, M.D. '81, is practising at Aylwin, Que.

Dr. A. McK. Cattanaeh, '82, is practising his profession in Michigan.

Mr. Harcourt J. Bull, B.A., '80, gold medallist in philosophy, is studying law in Detroit.

Drs. Lorne Campbell, '82, and Charles Cameron, '83, are studying at University College, London.

J. J. E. Maher, M.D. '81, has been appointed one of the District Dispensary Physicians in New York.

R. F. Smith, B. Ap. Sc. '83, is draughtsman for the Bergen Chemical Company at New Brighton, Staten Island.

The Marquis of Uguccione, Mr. Buntin's son-in-law, is taking some special courses of study in engineering in the college.

T. Drummond, B. Ap. Sc. '82, has returned lately to the city from the North-west. He was in charge of a party of surveyors.

J. B. Lawford, M.D. '78, M. R. C. S., Eng., has been appointed House Surgeon at the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, Moorfields.

J. Burland, '82, has returned from England. The Montreal Microscopical Society have unanimously appointed him their Assistant-Secretary.

Hamilton Allen, M.D. '72, paid a visit to Montreal in October. He is one of a large number of prosperous Canadian doctors in the Western States.

Phil Foster, B. Ap. Sc. '82, has just returned to the city for the winter, from one of the Rocky Mountain sections of the Canadian Pacific Railway, where he has been engaged on the engineering staff of the road.

John Brodie, M.D. '77, of Honolulu, has returned for a short visit to his friends. He gives an excellent report of the Island, where he has prospered during the past three years, as did his predecessors and friends, Drs. Vineberg and Miner.

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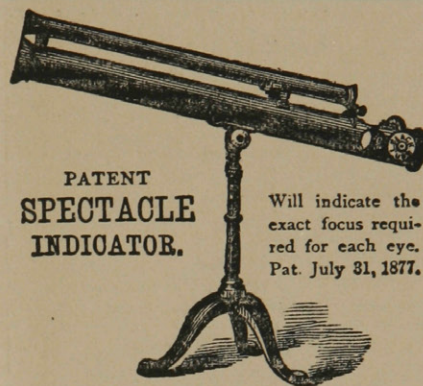
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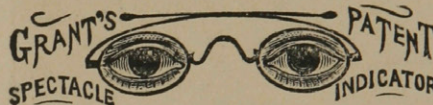
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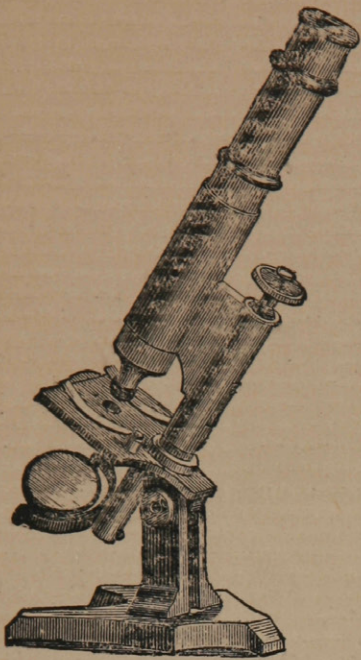
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